

second place finishes on the APGA since 2021. Tiger Woods awarded Mr. Byrd with the Charlie Sifford Memorial Exemption into the PGA Tour's Genesis Invitational in Los Angeles earlier this month. Mr. Byrd received an exemption into the PGA Tour's Honda Classic in Florida last week.

While he no longer lives permanently in the District of Columbia, Mr. Byrd returns to the area to make a positive impact on young people. He has given back to the First Tee of Greater Washington, D.C. by participating in multiple Politics and Pros events and by conducting clinics for young participants.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to recognize Marcus Byrd for his success in professional golf.

#### HONORING THE SERVICE OF JON ASHER

#### HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 28, 2023*

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jon Asher.

As the Executive Director of Colorado's Legal Services, Jon has dedicated his life to helping others and ensuring that Colorado's legal system is accessible to all those who need it, regardless of their ability to pay.

I have known and admired Jon for over 40 years. The Colorado legal community will agree that he's not just one of Colorado's greatest legal minds, he's also one of the most selfless.

After graduating from Harvard Law School in 1971, Jon moved to Greeley, Colorado where he began his legal career as a staff attorney with Colorado Rural Legal Services. Little did Jon know that this was the start of a long career of service.

His talent and intellect were evident to all those who worked with him, and Jon quickly rose through the ranks to become head of the Legal Aid Society of Metropolitan Denver in 1980—a position he would hold for the next 18 years.

When Colorado's three legal aid societies decided to come together to form one statewide legal aid program in 1999, Jon was the easy choice to run it; and it was then that he became the first Executive Director of the newly formed Colorado Legal Services—a position he has held ever since.

Under Jon's leadership, Colorado Legal Services has become one of the Nation's premier legal aid organizations—with a staff of more than 80 attorneys and 55 paralegals in 13 regional offices across Colorado.

Jon's reputation as a tireless and effective advocate for low-income and disadvantaged individuals in our state is seen in the quality of the work that Colorado Legal Services has done and continues to do to this day.

Throughout his career, Jon has been recognized, both in Colorado and throughout the Nation, for his talent and dedication to providing those who otherwise couldn't afford it with the quality legal representation they deserve. While his professional achievements are far too many to count, those who know Jon will agree that it's not the awards or recognition that drove him throughout his career—it's the thousands of people he's been able to help along the way.

After more than 50 years of dedicating himself to providing top-notch legal assistance to seniors and low-income individuals across our state, Jon announced recently that he plans to retire as the head of Colorado's Legal Services this summer. While there's no doubt that he will certainly be leaving behind some big shoes to fill, the organization he's helped to build from the ground up has never been stronger, and its ongoing success is all but guaranteed thanks to the tireless work that Jon and his colleagues have put into it over the years.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's First Congressional District, I want to express my profound thanks to Jon for all he's done for our state over the years—and his tireless efforts to help so many people along the way. And I want to wish him the very best during his much-deserved retirement.

#### COMMEMORATING CARES 50TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 28, 2023*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 50th anniversary of a tremendous asset in the communities I serve. For more than 50 years, CARES has been working to create a caring community committed to strengthening lives and creating positive futures for seniors in Pasco and Hernando counties. CARES serves people from all walks of life through their personal journey of aging and offers a broad spectrum of services and programs to help seniors live as they wish—Independently in their own homes.

CARES In-Home Health delivers assistance to help low-income, frail elders with basic services to ensure they are able to maintain their independence in a safe manner. CARES Senior Centers help elderly individuals stay connected to their world and their community through social activities, computer learning, educational programs, wellness initiatives and recreational activities. Research has shown that remaining active and engaged is positively correlated with living a longer, healthier life and CARES helps to make that a reality for many.

CARES also provides critical respite services through its Adult Day Care programs. Through this initiative, caregivers have the peace of mind of knowing their loved ones are supervised while they take some personal time away from caregiving. And, CARES runs a senior health clinic to serve those who are 55 years and older, low-income, and uninsured. It was my privilege to advocate for this tremendous agency by sponsoring a community budget request to secure \$2.5 million to for CARES to expand its footprint in the area. These funds will be used to purchase land and build an 8,000 square foot "One Stop Senior Center." CARES anticipates promoting quality of life and independence for frail and vulnerable seniors and their families at this center. A safe environment where the lives of senior citizens and their caregivers and families of West/Central Pasco will be enriched by the existence of a "One Stop Senior Center" geared to assist these individuals with in-home and community care to remain living inde-

pendently in their communities and prevent institutional/nursing home placement. Other direct services will include Adult Day Care facility, Case Management to provide information and referrals; mental health counseling and a FREE Health Clinic for non-invasive medical care.

As we celebrate this important milestone in CARES history, we look forward to another 50 years of outstanding service to local seniors throughout our community.

#### HONORING SAN ANGELO COMMUNITY LEADER JAMES HUFFMAN

#### HON. AUGUST PFLUGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 28, 2023*

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the hard work of San Angelo's very own James Huffman, who is being rightly being recognized with the Texas Southwest Council, Boy Scouts of America's prestigious Distinguished Citizen Award—an annual recognition of those who give freely of their time and talents to improve the quality of life for our community, Nation, and world.

James is an Eagle Scout, a family man, distinguished businessman, and servant to our community. His impact to San Angelo and the greater area cannot be overstated.

He earned his degree in Agricultural Economics from Texas Tech University and embarked on a career that led him back to San Angelo in 1984. Later, he earned his CPA certification and opened his own accounting practice.

Through the years, Mr. Huffman has been awarded for his achievements including his 1995 Small Business Administration's San Antonio-District CPA of the Year Award and in 2004 Innovation in Texas Award for his Cross Cut Wood Company from the Texas Railroad Commission.

Mr. Huffman has been very involved in many civic duties in West Texas. He serves, or has served, on the Rawls School of Business Dean's Advisory Council, as a Board member of the Concho Valley Center for Entrepreneurial Development, a member of the Sonora Downtown Lion's Club and San Angelo Jaycees, on the board of the San Angelo Area-wide Foundation, and he helped establish the San Angelo Safari Club chapter in 2014 as a board member as well as serving as the Vice President from 2014 to 2021.

In 2011, James joined the Board of Directors for the Boy Scouts of America's Texas Southwest Council, serving on the executive committee and as Chair of the Property Committee.

I am grateful for the impact James has made on our community.

#### REINTRODUCTION OF THE MILITARY SUPPORT FOR FIGHTING WILDFIRES ACT

#### HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 28, 2023*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, today I reintroduce the "Military Support for Fighting

Wildfires Act" with Representatives PANETTA (D-CA), SCANLON (D-PA), SCHIFF (D-CA), JACOBS (D-CA), and CARBAJAL (D-CA) as original cosponsors.

As California and other western states face increasingly severe and frequent wildfires due to the climate crisis, we need all the help we can get from our federal government. My comprehensive "Military Support for Fighting Wildfires Act" would improve the American military's support for civilian emergency response to wildfires and similar natural disasters. It would also provide permanent Congressional authorization for the California Air National Guard's "FireGuard" program, in partnership with the U.S. Air Force and the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency.

The James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263) included provisions from my bill (H.R. 5560) last Congress extending the National Guard's Fireguard program until 2029; requiring the U.S. Department of Defense to budget for extreme weather events linked to climate change; directing the National Guard to consult with the National Interagency Fire Center when training for domestic emergency response to wildfires; and requiring an updated interagency review of the U.S. Air Force and National Guard's existing legal authorities to respond to domestic wildfires. The White House Office of Management and Budget last completed such a review in 2004.

The FY2023 NOAA also enacted my bill section authorizing the Department of Defense to transfer excess aircraft to other federal departments for search and rescue or emergency operations related to wildfires. U.S. Senator ALEX PADILLA (D-CA) introduced my bill section as the bipartisan "Emergency Aircraft Act of 2022" (S. 4672) last Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to working with you and other members of the California delegation to advance these remaining reforms included in my "Military Support for Fighting Wildfires Act." As ranking member of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Readiness, I plan to make this a top priority for the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF STAFF SERGEANT FRED- ERICK LEROY WARNER, JR.

**HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 28, 2023*

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Staff Sergeant Frederick LeRoy Warner, Jr., fondly known as Teddy, who was called home to be with his savior in December.

Teddy grew up with his brother in a strong Christian household where he grew his faith with the guidance and nurturing of his parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents.

He was raised in Texas and upon graduation from High School enlisted in the United States Army where he was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment of the 101st Airborne Division. He served in Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm and was honorably discharged.

After the Army, he earned his degree in Arts in History from the University of Houston but

felt like his duty to his country was not finished.

Ted reenlisted in the Army and joined the 5th Special Forces Group where he fought in three combat deployments in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. For his valor in Iraq, he earned medals of commendation for his courage and heroism under enemy fire. He returned home safely and finished out his military service in the Texas National Guard where he earned a Master's Degree in Business in Security Management.

Ted was not only a decorated war veteran, but he was also a beloved missionary to everyone in his life. He understood the urgency of coming to know Jesus Christ and dedicated himself to uplifting others through his faith.

America is the land of the free and home of the brave because of Godly men with a heart for service, like Ted. He lived his life in service to others and will be missed dearly.

May his legacy and memory live on in the hearts of those who loved him and served with him, and may we always remember the sacrifices he made for this great Nation.

#### HONORING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF HELEN MULRENNAN YOUNG

**HON. LAUREL M. LEE**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 28, 2023*

Ms. LEE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my constituents, Ms. Helen Mulrennan Young of Brandon, Florida, who turned 100 years old on February 27, 2023.

Ms. Young is the youngest sibling of the Mulrennan pioneering family, whose roots in Eastern Hillsborough County date back more than 140 years.

Carrying on her family's legacy of service, Ms. Young is an active member of the Kiwanis Club of Greater Brandon, and of Cornerstone Baptist Church, where she serves her community through crochet.

For more than 23 years, Ms. Young has crocheted blankets and hats for those in need, including newborn babies, the homeless, and hospital patients. In 2022, she received the Spirit of Kiwanis Award for her incredible work.

Her life is a testament to the power of faith, family, and community, and she represents the best of Florida's 15th District. That is why it is a great privilege to wish Ms. Young a very happy 100th birthday and many more to come.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE REDUCING HELICOPTER NOISE IN THE DIS- TRICT OF COLUMBIA ACT

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 28, 2023*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Reducing Helicopter Noise in the District of Columbia Act, which would require all helicopters and rotocraft in the District of Columbia to fly at the maximum altitude permitted by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in D.C., with limited exceptions. The ex-

ceptions would include active law enforcement and rescue operations, transporting the president and vice president and safety.

I hear from D.C. residents almost daily about helicopter noise. Helicopter noise can harm health, quality of life and the structural integrity of homes. In 2019, I led members of the National Capital Region (NCR) in requesting that the Government Accountability Office (GAO) study helicopter noise in the NCR. Last year, GAO issued its report. GAO found that there had been nearly 90,000 helicopter flights in the NCR from 2017 to 2019. GAO recommended that the FAA develop a mechanism to exchange helicopter noise information with operators in the NCR. The FAA has indicated that it is working on such a mechanism.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE FOOD DESERTS ACT

**HON. ANDRÉ CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 28, 2023*

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, today I am reintroducing the Food Deserts Act of 2023 to help fight hunger and food insecurity in communities across the country.

As we end Black History Month, I'd like to focus on the problem of food insecurity and how it disproportionately hurts Black and Brown families.

I want to share just one example. In June of 2017, Marsh Supermarkets grocery stores announced the closure of many stores throughout the Midwest. Many of these stores were in my district. Many families lacked a car or reliable public transportation to the nearest grocery alternative, often over a mile away. Today, thousands of my constituents are still struggling to find the food they need, with many forced to rely on fast-food restaurants and convenience stores.

These options are neither healthy nor affordable.

Sadly, this situation is not unique. Over 29 million people, almost 10 percent of the U.S. population, live without ready access to affordable, nutritious food, and over 2 million people have no transportation to get to their nearest store. Many have seen their local stores close during the pandemic. Others lost access years ago and now face the severe long-term impacts of obesity, diabetes, malnutrition, and other diet-related ailments.

Unfortunately, residents in these low-income areas tend to spend less on groceries, leaving little financial incentive for traditional grocery chains to make costly investments for new locations.

In the world's wealthiest country, nutritious food should be an expectation, not a luxury. That is why I am reintroducing the Food Deserts Act, which creates new avenues to fund stores in underserved communities. This bill will create USDA-funded, state-operated revolving funds that will issue low-interest loans for the operation of grocery stores in food deserts. The bill ensures that recipients of these loans, including for-profit, non-profit, and municipal entities, can provide affordable, healthy food, including fresh produce and staples like milk, bread, and meat. It will also ensure that USDA professionals are available to